

RESOLUTION 2022-09-19-03

Authorizing an Application for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program

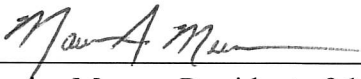
WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration has established the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program to assist local communities in the removal of railroad crossings; and

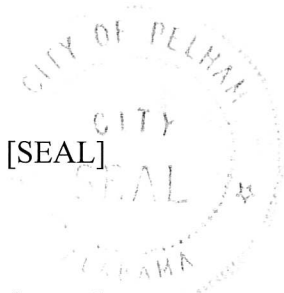
WHEREAS, the Pelham City Council has determined it serves a public purpose and is beneficial for the City of Pelham to apply for funding from the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program through the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Pelham that Gary W. Waters, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Pelham, is authorized to make application to the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration's Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program with an 80% federal and 20% local project cost match to assist in the removal of railroad crossings within the City.

THEREUPON Rick Wash, a councilmember, moved and David Coram, a councilmember, seconded the motion that Resolution 2022-09-19-03 be given vote, and said resolution passed by a majority vote of all members of the Council present and the Council President declared the same passed and adopted.

ADOPTED this 19th day of September 2022.


Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

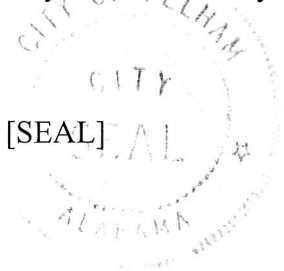


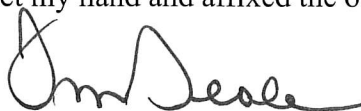
ATTEST


Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer

I, the undersigned City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Pelham, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of a resolution lawfully passed and adopted by the City Council of the City named herein, at a regular meeting of such Council held on the 19th day of September 2022 and that such resolution is on file in the office of the City Clerk/Treasurer and that no action has been taken to rescind or modify said Resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City on this 19th day of September 2022.




Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



MEMORANDUM

To: Andre' Bittas

Cc:

From: Chris Cousins

Date: September 14, 2022

Subject: Application for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program
Munis Acct No. 1005030-550199
Project No. 5323026

Attached is an application to the US Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration as part of the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program. The goal of this grant will be to remove railroad crossings within the City.

This is an 80/20 grant wherein, if funding is provided, the US Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration will be responsible for 80% of the project costs and the City will be responsible for 20% of the project costs.

I am requesting that this recommendation to apply be placed on the Council agenda for consideration.

President Biden, USDOT Announce More Than \$573 Million in Available Funding from the New Railroad Crossing Elimination Program

Thursday, June 30, 2022

Following this week's tragic fatal crashes, President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides a total of \$3 billion over five years for a new program that will improve safety in communities, reduce wait times at railroad crossings, and help freight move goods more efficiently and affordably

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Transportation today issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) announcing more than \$573 million in available grant funding this year alone for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program. This new competitive discretionary grant program – which will help improve safety, eliminate lengthy delays at railroad crossings in communities across the country and ultimately lower the costs of transporting goods, making them more affordable for American families – was created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and will be administered by the Federal Railroad Administration. At least 20% of available funding will go to rural and Tribal areas. Incidents this week in Missouri and California have underscored the tragic consequences of collisions between trains and vehicles that occur throughout the country. In 2021, there were approximately 2,148 grade crossing incidents, resulting in 236 deaths and 662 injuries.

"In too many communities across America, outdated railroad crossings are unsafe, result in lengthy wait times, and can even create significant delays in our supply chains," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "With resources from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we can improve rail crossings and help people and goods get where they need to go more safely."

"The Railroad Crossing Elimination Program will make many grade crossings safer or eliminate them altogether in the coming years," said FRA Administrator Amit Bose. "The projects funded by the program demonstrate the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's lasting impact on communities by strengthening their infrastructure, reducing congestion, and saving lives."

The Railroad Crossing Elimination Program will fund projects that create grade separations – such as overpasses and underpasses – as well as closures, track relocations, and improvement or installation of warning devices at crossings if related to a separation or relocation project. Planning, environmental review, and other preliminary design elements are also eligible for grant funding.

FRA will evaluate project proposals based on their potential to improve safety by eliminating crossings or improving existing highway-rail grade crossings; increase access to emergency services; reduce emissions; provide economic benefit; and hire locally, among other possible community enhancements.

The Railroad Crossing Elimination Program is one of several funding opportunities supported by the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve the safety of rail infrastructure across the country. Earlier this month, FRA awarded over \$368 million in Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program grants to dozens of projects that will upgrade or eliminate grade crossings. Thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, funding for the CRISI program will triple for the next five years, meaning more than \$1 billion will be available starting later this year.

More information about the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program can be found on the [fact sheet](#) from FRA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law webpage.